

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Soviet Female Military Compound at Strausberg

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1. Since May 1948, several hundred Russian women, aged 20-25, have been billeted in the former Landesjugendheim buildings in Strausberg (VI5). It is believed that they arrived from Rostock as a unit and that they will proceed to Potsdam on completion of their studies.
2. The women constitute a select group, receiving unusually high pay and good food, and dressed in well made uniforms. They are required to know German, French, and English fluently at the start of the school course; in addition, some of them speak Polish. Military drill is part of the school routine. The students are restricted to the Strausberg compound and can leave only by special pass. The compound is guarded by Russian soldiers.
3. Teachers at the Jugendheim are all Soviet women officers with the rank of major. They are permitted more freedom than the students and are billeted partly in private homes with sentries guarding them.
4. The streetcar line from Strausberg to the compound has been blocked, so that approach must be made on foot.
5. Up to five weeks ago (i.e., about 1-15 August), Soviet officers and EM in Strausberg were forced to deposit an unknown percentage of their pay in a Zwangssparkasse. This measure apparently was designed to promote the idea of personal savings. Deposits were made available to personnel on or about